

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~61-5546 Dispute
FRP: 1213: : : : :

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TOR: 281737Z APR 81

PP RUEAIIB
 ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
 STU7815
 PP RUEHC
 DE RUESTE #2868 1181604
 ZNY CCCCC ZZH
 P R 281555Z APR 81
 FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2757
 INFO RUEHCR/AMCONSUL BELIZE 0534
 RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 8286
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0168
 BT

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 2868

EO 12065 N/A
 TAGS: PBOR: HQ
 SUBJECT: ZAPOTILLO CAYS DISPUTE

REF: STATE 95269

1. SINCE RECENT DISPUTE BEGAN, HONDURANS HAVE CONSISTENTLY REFERRED TO DISPUTED ISLETS AS "CAYOS ZAPOTILLOS" ALTHOUGH EMBASSY POSSESSES MAPS WHICH SPELL THESE CAYS AS SAPODILLA OR ZAPOTILLA. WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THAT ZAPODILLA MIGHT ALSO BE USED FOR THESE SAME SPECKS OF LAND. HOWEVER, ON MARCH 25, EL HERALDO CARRIED LENGTHY EXCERPT FROM A REFERENCE WORK PUBLISHED IN 1939 BY GUSTAVO A. CASTANEDA ENTITLED "EL SOMINIO INSULAR DE HONDURAS", IN WHICH AUTHOR STATES THAT ZAPODILLA CAYS, WHICH ARE NOT UNDER HONDURAN SOVEREIGNTY, ARE "TWO SMALL ISLANDS FARTHER TO THE NORTH OF OURS" (THE ZAPOTILLOS). WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THESE TWO OTHER ISLETS IN FACT, EXIST OR NOT, AND HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND THEM ON A MAP.

2. THE SAME EXCERPT FROM CITED WORK LISTS THE SIX

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ISLETS COLLECTIVELY CALLED THE ZAPOTILLO CAYS, TOGETHER
WITH THEIR AREA IN HECTARES AS: RACKED CAY (1.21);
LINE CAY (2.85); HUNTING CAY (4.86); NICHOLAS CAY
(4.05); FRANCK CAY (3.64); AND NORTH EAST CAY (0.81).
TO DATE, THE GOH HAS NOT PUBLISHED ANY SPECIFIC
DESCRIPTION OF ITS CLAIM. FONOFF HAS INFORMED EMBASSY
THAT FORMAL EXPOSITION OF HONDURAN CASE IS ONLY NOW
BEING PREPARED BY WORKING GROUP, BUT THAT CAYS LISTED
ABOVE ACCUTATELY REPRESENT HONDURAN CLAIM. WE WILL
CONFIRM THIS WITH WORKING GROUP AND ATTEMPT TO SECURE
FURTHER INFORMATION ON BASIS OF CLAIM.
BINNS

END OF MESSAGE

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